

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
NORTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)
)
v.) CASE NO. 2:05-cr-150-F
)
) (WO)
RONNIE BENNETT GRISSETT)

O R D E R

On October 26, 2005, the defendant filed a Motion to Continue (Doc. #40). While the granting of a continuance is left to the sound discretion of the trial judge, *United States v. Warren*, 772 F.2d 827, 837 (11th Cir. 1985), the court is, of course, limited by the requirements of the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161. The Speedy Trial Act provides generally that the trial of a defendant in a criminal case shall commence within 70 days of the latter of the filing date of the indictment or the date the defendant appeared before a judicial officer in such matter. 18 U.S.C. §3161(c)(1). See *United States v. Vasser*, 916 F.2d 624 (11th Cir. 1990).

The Act excludes from this 70 day period any continuance that the judge grants "on the basis of his findings that the ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial." 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(8)(A).

The motion states that on or about October 12, 2005 defense counsel received heretofore undisclosed discovery from the government which includes several hundred pages of documents. Counsel needs more time to review this disclosure and to determine what impact it has on this case. Consequently, the court concludes that a continuance of this case

is warranted and that the ends of justice served by continuing this case outweighs the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial. See United States v. Davenport, 935 F.2d 1223, 1235 (11th Cir. 1991)(reasonable time necessary for effective preparation is a significant factor for granting a continuance under the Speedy Trial Act).

Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED:

1. That the defendant's motion filed on October 26, 2005 is GRANTED;
2. That the trial of this defendant is continued from the November 7, 2005 trial term to the February 13, 2006 trial term.
3. That the Magistrate Judge conduct a pretrial conference prior to the February 13, 2006 trial term.

DONE this 1st day of November, 2005.

/s/ Mark E. Fuller
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE